(b) if so, the major findings of the appraisal; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to achieve targets in major sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. exercise for the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan is currently in progress. The Editorial Committee of the Planning Commission, constituted for the Mid Term Appraisal Document, is in the process of finalising the draft chapters.

Special Category Status to Orissa

3641. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to grant special category status to Orissa;

(b) wehter Government have received any Memorandum from the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken in that matter; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) The Government of Orissa had requested the Government of India in 1998 that Special category status may be granted to the Stape of Orissa. The Planning Commission has been receiving suggestions from various States/UTs for revision of the Gadgil Formula which is the basis for allocation of Central Assistance. It was decided that the request from the Government of Orissa would be examined in this context and a final decision would be taken after consideration by the National Development Council. The State Government was informed accordingly.